The Evolution of Radical Islam and the Roots of Modern International Terrorism

Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office
Bureau of Investigation, Anti-Terrorism Unit
Supervising Investigator Daewon Kim
Senior Investigator Britton Schaefer
The Kingdom
Director - Peter Berg
Producer - Michael Mann
Universal Pictures
2007
Roots of Islam

Jahiliyya - state of ignorance of the guidance from God

God/Allah

Judaism

Abraham (1850 BC)

Wife - Sarah

Isaac

Hebrew Jews

Egyptian mistress - Hagar

Ishmael

Muhammad AD 570-632

Islam

Arab Muslims

Modern Islamic History

Jesus 4 BC-30 AD

Christianity

Christians

Modern Christian History

Modern Jewish History
Reasons for Islam

• **Jews and Christians** had disobeyed God’s Commandments
• They divided themselves into sects
• Christians worshipped Christ instead of God
• Both had gone astray—must be brought back to the righteous path
• **Islam**—absolute submission to the will of God
Origins of Islam

• Muhammad grew up in Mecca
• He was poor and was raised by his Uncle
• He grew up with his first cousin Ali and they became very close
• Married Khadija who was a wealthy merchant trader-remained monogamous until her death
• 4 children together-2 girls survived, the boys died young
Origins of Islam

- The Arc Angel Gabriel came to Muhammad and the direct word of God/Allah was spoken to Mohammad and written (the Qur’an-meaning recitation)
Origins of Islam

- Original Qur’an believed to be in heaven
- Muhammad also had revelations from God
- Revealed gradually over 20 year period to allow growth and to overcome challenges
- Khadija supported him- Ali was the first to convert to Islam
- This marked the birth of the world’s 3rd Monotheist religion
Origins of Islam

• According to Muslims the true word of God is Arabic
• The difference between the Qur’an and the Bible - rarely is God directly quoted in the Bible
• Muhammad began building a following in Mecca
Origins of Islam

• After Khadija died Muhammad married Aisha (the child bride—the mother of Islam)—Abu Bakr’s daughter
• He had 9 wives (political marriages) after Khadija and none of them bore any children
• Lack of male offspring caused a major crisis in the future of Islam
Origins of Islam

- **622 A.D.** Muhammad assassination attempt
- Abu Bakr warns Muhammad and they escape from Mecca to Medina, at night
- Ali stands in for Muhammad
- *Hijra* = Islamic term for emigration
- Date marks establishment of Islamic calendar
- 1 A.H. = “after hijra”
Origins of Islam

• Medina eventually accepted Islam by force and conversion
• Many battles were fought against the Quraysh tribes in Mecca eventually unifying the region under Islam and Muhammad
• Islam began its expansion
The Evolution of Islam

- 632 A.D. Muhammad died - he did not name a successor or khalifa (no sons)
- This event forever changed Islam
- Many Islamic scholars believed that Muhammad intended for Ali - his closest male relative to succeed
- The first Islamic Shura Council was held to name Muhammad’s khalifa
The Evolution of Islam

• The **Caliph** is the successor to Muhammad as the leader of all Dar al Islam

• **Caliphate** is the office of the Caliph (similar to the Pope in the Catholic Church)

• According to **Sunni’s** the four “rightly guided” Caliphs after Muhammad
  1. Abu Bakr (632-634)
  2. Umar I (634-644)
  3. Uthman (644-656)
  4. Ali (656-661)
The Evolution of Islam

• The fact that Ali was not appointed khalifa and the events that followed split Islam forever—Sunni vs. Shi’ite

• Ali believed he was the rightful heir and was a believer of Islam in the form that Muhammad preached

• He would have to wait 25 years before being named khalifa
Ali

- Moved the base of government to Kufa-modern day Iraq
- Fought 3 major civil wars (fitnas) against Muslims
- the most significant fitna was against The Rejectionists (khariji)
- Abdullah ibn Wahb, the first Islamic Fundamentalists (modern day extremists)-demanded Islamic purity
The Rejectionists

- Felt Islam had been corrupted by outside influence
- Murdered those who did not conform to their form of Islam - their narrow interpretation of the Qur’an
- Introduced the authority to kill those Muslims who were not pure/halal
- All out fanaticism - modern day terrorists
Ali

- Ali was murdered - a rejectionist struck him with a sword laced with poison
- His body was buried in Najaf (modern day Iraq)
- Mu’awiyah took control and consolidated his power over the entire Islamic empire
Ali

• Ali’s death sent shock waves through Islam. (The partisans of Ali, the Shi’ites, were crushed in Iraq, by the brutal governor Ziyad-like Saddam)

• Ali became known as the 1st Imam amongst the Shi’ites

• Sunnis recognize him as the 4th of the rightly guided Caliphs
Hasan and Hussein

- Hasan - the second Imam in Shi’a Islam was poisoned by his wife on orders of Mu’awiyah after returning to Medina.
- Hussein - the third Imam led his family from Medina with an army of 72 warriors against Mu’awiyah’s army of thousands in Kufa.
- Each warrior was martyred in individual combat.
Hasan and Hussein

- **Hussein**- The Prince of Martyrs was killed on 10 October 680 A.D.
- This day became known as **Ashura** and is celebrated every year in **Shi’a Islam**
- Hussein is buried in Karbala, the site of the annual pilgrimage for Ashura
- On Ashura many march through the streets beating their chests with their fists, flailing chains with razor blades on their backs and cutting their faces with knives
Hasan and Hussein

- There would be 12 Imams recognized in Shi’a Islam - 11 killed by the Sunnis
- Muhammad al-Mahdi was the 12th Imam, believed to be in hiding
- Mahdi believed to return in “apocalyptic fashion” to liberate the Shi’ites and defeat the non-believers
Mu’awiyah

- Islam was transformed into a government
- The empire grew - run much like a central government through the Caliph, taxes and other government functions appointed to governors to rule different territories
- Some were brutal and some were lenient - it all depended on the governor
- This style of government lasted until the collapse of the Ottoman empire
Sunnī vs. Shi’īte

**Sunni** - stayed with Mu’awiyah and his successors. Most Muslims are Sunni (70-80%)

**Shi’ite** - (shi’at Ali - partisans of Ali) believed caliphate should pass to Muhammad’s descendents. Rule in Iran (90%), majority in Iraq (60%). Scattered throughout the rest of the Middle East
Sunni vs. Shi’ite Territory
Quick and Lasting Success

- After the Prophet Muhammad’s death in AD 632, Islam was already a force to be reckoned with.
- Early military conquests:
  - Persian empire defeated (prior to being Muslim)
  - Byzantine (Roman) Empire thrown back
  - 1423 Byzantine (Roman) Empire fell
- Continued for 1,000 years
- Islamic civilization stretched from the shores of west Africa to the Philippines
Superiority of Islam

• Islam’s main competition was Christendom, which was always seen as a distant second
• Muslims were socially, scientifically, politically and militarily superior to the Christians / West
• According to Muslims, Arabic was God’s language and all other languages were inferior
• Jahiliyya- Pre-Islam (Muhammad AD 570)- “The state of ignorance of the guidance of God”

*current implications-extremists views
Decline of Muslim Empire

• Muslim Spain finally fell in 1492 (the Spanish Inquisition + Columbus), but the Islamic superpower of the time, Ottoman Empire, was largely unconquered

• More important were developments in Eastern Europe
  – Failure to conquer Vienna in 1683
  – Retreat through Balkans, with defeat sealed in Treaty of Carlowitz in 1699
  – 1st time Ottomans had terms of peace dictated to them
Decline of Muslim Empire

- Ottoman **Turks assumed Caliphate** in 1517, after several centuries of decay and rival claimants.
- The **Protestant Reformation** led by Martin Luther began in earnest in 1517 - uncanny parallels.
- Mustafa Ataturk, founder of modern Turkey, abolished the Caliphate in 1924.
Decline of Muslim Empire

• Beginning in the 17th and 18th century, the Muslim world turned upside down—eventually the Ottoman Empire collapsed
• The Christian West overtook Islam on every scale—military, culture, technology, politics, social development, science, medicine etc.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

• Barbary Wars - American War with the Barbary Pirates of North Africa—Morocco, Tunisia, Algiers and Libya - the Constitution
Barbary Wars

• Historically there were 2 Barbary Wars
• 1804 US Marine Lt. Presley O’Bannon led a raid against Tripoli (Libya). Temporarily halted the piracy
• Marine Corps hymn/ Mamaluke sword
• 2nd War concluded in 1815 when Commodore Stephen Decatur led a naval force to finally force peace
Decline of Muslim Empire

• The Ottoman Turks sided with Germany in World War I and lost - after the war their empire was divided and occupied by the Allies (except America)

• By the end of World War I, the only Muslim countries not occupied by the West were Turkey and Iran, most of the Arab peninsula, and a few remote regions of Afghanistan

• British and French imperialist occupations of northern Africa, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine
The Problem

- Within a few centuries, the Islamic world fell from undisputed global supremacy
- Through traditional Islamic eyes, such a rapid thorough civilization decline was almost incomprehensible
- Looked for reasons and solutions
A glimpse into the mind of a terrorist *homicide* bomber…
Details and Background of Islam
Physical Place

• **Dar al Islam vs. Dar al Harb**
  - Dar al Islam (House of Islam) is territory ruled by a Muslim government
  - Dar al Harb (House of War) is all other territory
  - *In keeping with Islamic law-* Muslims can live in Dar al Harb, but it is preferred if they live in Dar al Islam

• **Umma** - worldwide community of Muslims, no matter where they live
  - Large swaths of the Umma living in the Dar al Harb (e.g. France, Germany, England and the United States) is a new and poorly understood development
Physical Place (cont)

• Traditional lack of “nationality” in the Western sense

• Loyalty goes straight from family (or village or tribe) to the **Umma** - not much in between

• Country borders relatively new to Muslim world - loyalty to country (nationalism) not as important
Pillars of Islam

1. Shahadah
2. Salah
3. Zakah
4. Sawm
5. Hajj
Five Pillars of Islam

1. **Shahadah** - profession of faith (the unbending rule)
   *There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the prophet*

2. **Salat** - ritual prayer performed 5 times a day (Qibla)

3. **Zakat** - tax primarily for the poor, but also to cover state expenses

4. **Sawm** - daily fast during month of Ramadan
   (generally in September—coincides with Rash Hashanah Jewish holiday)

5. **Hajj** - pilgrimage to Mecca (at least once in lifetime)
   *Shahadah is unbending—the others have common sense applications*
   *Ramaḍan takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, believed to be the month in which the Qur'an began to be revealed*
Introduction to the Shari’a

• **Shari’a** is Islamic Law
  - All encompassing—public and private (how to live life/military/business/government)
  - No distinction between religious and secular realms (separation of church and state)
• Two main elements:
  - Qur’an
  - Hadith
Elements of the Shari’a

- **Qur’an** (“recitation”)
  - literal word of God
  - Revealed piece-by-piece to the Prophet by the Gabriel and through revelations over 20 years
  - Written in **Arabic** (language of Allah)
  - Written after Prophet’s death
  - **114 suras** (chapters), each with multiple verses
Elements of the Shari’a (cont)

• **Sunna/Hadith** - Large collection of stories and sayings about the Prophet Muhammad (900,000)
  - augments the Qur’an
  - assisted in guidance on practical affairs

• **Consensus of the Ulma** (Muslim scholars - 10th century) - these are very bright Muslim scholars who interpret the Hadith and Qur’an and provide interpretations to everyday events - (like lawyers)
Membership has its rewards...

- **Kafir** = infidel – must convert or die, may be allowed to live under enslavement or as a dhimmi
- **Dhimmi** = second class citizens
- **Kharaj** = land tax - people lost title right to their property - paid by the dhimmi
- **Jizya** = poll tax - public humiliation ceremony
Fundamentalism

• “Our aim is to change the Jahiliyyah system (the whole world) at it’s very roots”

• “life is demanded on us by the Qu’ran…total view of the universe…the kind of morals and manners…the kind of legal and constitutional system it asks us to establish in the WORLD”

• Return to the generation of the Companions of the Prophet (by force)
Fundamentalism

• Impose full Shari’a
  -not a throwback to ancient times, regardless of what the fundamentalists say
  -The same philosophy as the Rejectionists in 7 century AD
Fundamentalism

• Fiercely rejects any Western influence
• Similar to Communism/Nazism-total control and dominance of society
• The Taliban style rule that was in Afghanistan
The Fundamentalist’s Jihad

• “We love death-the Americans love life-that is the difference between us”
  -Osama Bin Laden in a videotaped message following 9/11/01

• “War is our best hobby. The sounds of guns firing is like music for us. We cannot live without war. We have no other way except Jihad…. The Americans love Pepsi Cola; we love death”
  -Maulana Inydullah, Taliban fighter
The Fundamentalist’s Jihad

• Anwar al Awlaki- 44 ways of supporting Jihad
  – “Jihad is the greatest deed in Islam, Jihad today is obligatory on every capable Muslim”

• Teaching intolerance, hate and the use of violence in the name of Islam to restore Islam....
Historical Perspective

- **US role in the Middle East** throughout history—missionaries, establishment of schools, push for self-rule—pre WWII
- The establishment of **Israel**—continued U.S. support and its consequences
- **Cold War/ anti-Soviet policies**—support of conservative Islam to counter communism
- Pan Arab Nationalism—Egypt-UAR
- **The need for oil after WWII**—North America drained
- Perception of **STRENGTH** important in Islam
Rise of Modern Fundamentalism

Perception is Reality…

• Islamic Fundamentalist STRENGTH
• American WEAKNESS
• UBL and Vietnam, Beirut and Somalia
Rise of Modern Fundamentalism

• Fueled initially by the post-1973 oil boom
• Money and Wahhabi fundamentalist ideology from Saudi Arabia
  -funded schools/madrassas, mosques, publishing houses, Qur’ans, charities and propaganda of all sorts
• Sunni extremism to block the Soviets and Shi’ite fundamentalist movement
• Oil wealth itself was widely seen as God’s favor for returning to Islam
1979

- Crucial time period in the growth and spread of radical Islam - both Sunni and Shi’ite
- Shi’ite Islamic Revolution
- A shift from the PLO terror groups marxist/secular model-to a religious one-the Intifada
- Rise of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad (al-Jihad)- Israeli/Egypt peace accords
- Radical Sunni Extremism-Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and threat to Pakistan
The Mahdi?
The Iranian Revolution

- The **Iranian Revolution** (also known as the **Islamic Revolution**)
- A **religious theocracy**
- Overthrew the Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and established an Islamic republic under **Ayatollah Khomeini**
- Iran had been very **pro United States, anti-Arab, anti Communist and surprisingly fairly pro-Israel**
- The US “installed” the Shah in 1953 after fears of Soviet influence-Operation Ajax
The Iranian Revolution

- “The third great revolution in modern history,” following the American and Bolshevik revolutions, and an event that "made Islamic fundamentalism a political force”
- Islamic jurists would protect Islam from innovation and deviation by following traditional sharia law exclusively
- Wanted to end all American and Soviet influence/meddling
The American Embassy Siege

- 11/4/1979 American Embassy was stormed by students supported by Iran’s religious leaders-63 US diplomats and 3 civilians taken hostage
The American Embassy Siege

- 4/24/1980-rescue attempt “Operation Eagle Claw” launched-failure resulted in the deaths of 5 Air Force personnel and 3 Marines
  **444 days** of American shame and humiliation
- The Islamic Fundamentalist movement was emboldened by America’s humiliation and failure to respond to the crisis- **STRENGTH**
Afghanistan

- **Soviet-Afghan War**, was a nine-year conflict involving Soviet forces supporting the Marxist People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) government against the Afghanistan mujahideen resistance.
Afghanistan

• This conflict was concurrent to the 1979 Iranian Revolution and the Iran-Iraq War
• The final troop withdrawal began in 1988, and ended in 1989
• The Soviet Armed Forces suffered almost 15,000 killed and 500,000 wounded/sick
Afghanistan

• The Islamic victory over the Soviet Union in the Afghanistan War seen as a huge victory for Islamic Fundamentalism-STRENGTH
  -Compared to the Islam’s earlier defeats of Persia and Byzantium (Soviets- one of 2 super powers)
• The Islamic Fundamentalists claim that the war led to collapse of the Soviet Union
Spread of Radical Sunni Islam

- Estimates show at least 5,000 Saudis, 3,000 Yemenis, 2,800 Algerians, 2,000 Egyptians as well as thousands of Indonesians and Chechens were trained and radicalized in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Many of these radical jihadists returned to their home countries after the war.
- This caused radical Islam to spread throughout the world.
Afghanistan Overview

• Arab Mujahideen vs. Afghanistan Mujahideen - misconceptions and glorification of the Arab fighters
• The big three - Azzam (Palestinian)/ Zawahiri (Egyptian)/ Osama bin Ladin (Saudi)
• The role of the CIA/Saudi Arabia/ and the Pakistani ISI
• Civil War - Hekmatyar/ Massoud
• Rise of the Taliban (Mullah Omar- student movement)-supported by Pakistan and Saudi Arabia
The Bloody 80’s

• The Iraq and Iran War- The US backed Sadam Hussein (over 1 million Iraqi’s and Iranian’s died in the conflict)
• Iraq invaded Iran after the Islamic Revolution
• The US backed the harsh dictator to stem the quell of Shi’ite Islamic Fundamentalism
• Iran/Contra scandal-US selling weapons to Iran
• Contradictory foreign policy
The Bloody 80’s

• In June 1982 Israel invaded Lebanon in order to destroy the PLO
• Israel routed Syria’s Army and quickly forced the PLO to retreat to Beirut-the PLO eventually left Lebanon
• Sept 1982 the Syrians assassinated the Lebanese President Gemayel, the Christian Meronite leader-that both Israel and the US supported
The Bloody 80’s

• In response Israel occupied much of Beirut's Muslim section- **Maronite militia massacred over 800 Palestinian civilians in refugee camps**
• The US sent Marines in to protect the Palestinian civilians and to bolster the Maronite government- **FUBAR** mission
• They faced fierce resistance from **Syrian, Shi’ite and Druze (Muslim) defenders**
The Bloody 80’s

• The result was the development and use of unconventional warfare (terrorism) still used by terrorist organizations today

• Hizballah-(Shi’ite terrorist group based in Lebanon)-supported by Iran and Syria became the masters of modern terrorism and unleashed a wave of terrorist attacks that the US and the world were unprepared to defend against
The Bloody 80’s

• 4/13/1983 a Hizballah suicide bomber drove a truck into the US embassy in Beirut
• 17 Americans (many of them CIA officials) were killed along with 40 Lebanese civilians
Beirut Bombing-1983

• \textbf{10/23/1983} bombing of Beirut International Airport, Marine Corps barracks
  -\textbf{241 US servicemen killed}; 220 Marines, 18 sailors and 3 soldiers (most Marines killed in a single day since the Battle of Iwo Jima)
Beirut Bombing-1983

• In February 1984 President Reagan eventually pulled American forces out of region not wanting to be embroiled in a Vietnam like quagmire

• Hizballah defeated American forces and forced America to withdraw in humiliation—another demonstration of success for Fundamentalist Islam—STRENGTH
The 90s and the lead up to 9/11

- 8/2/1990-Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait and declares a Holy War against Saudi Arabia
- The US deploys over 500,000 troops along with a coalition of moderate Arab countries
- Operation Desert Storm/Shield- US forces destroyed Iraq’s forces and liberated Kuwait
- The alliance between the US and moderate Muslim countries infuriated Osama bin Laden
Somalia

- 1991-US in Somalia initially on humanitarian mission to aid in food distribution- US Marines "meals on wheels"
- Muslim "country" torn by civil war and War Lord control
- Al Qaeda trained militants-Afghan lessons
- Evolved into a military conflict against the warlords
Somalia

- 10/3/1993- **Battle of Mogadishu**
- Attack launched by elite US Army units (Rangers and Delta) to capture Tier 1 personalities belonging to **Mohamed Ferrah Adid’s** (warlord) organization
Somalia

- Two Black Hawk helicopters shot down, **18 Americans killed and 73 were wounded**
Somalia

- Delta Force Sergeants Randall Shugart and Gary Gordon were providing protective fire at the crash sites from a helicopter.
- Inserted to protect the injured Black Hawk pilot- Michael J. Durant.
- Armed with small arms and sniper rifles- killed defending Durant.
- Durant survived-eventually released.
- Shugart and Gordon were awarded the Medals of Honor for their bravery.
Black Hawk Down
Director – Ridley Scott
Producers – Jerry Bruckheimer and Ridley Scott
Columbia Pictures
2001
Somalia

- Although the **US** killed between 1,000-2,000 enemy combatants during the operation-
  President Clinton ordered all forces out of Somalia by March 31, 1994
- Again the United States defeated in the region only to withdraw in humiliation-further elevating Fundamentalist Islam-STRENGTH
Somalia

- Civil war continues
- US implications - Al Shabaab - current American recruitment
- Al Shabaab carrying out attacks outside of Somalia
The 90s and the lead up to 9/11

• Osama bin Laden (still obscure and relatively unknown) had recently left Afghanistan/Pakistan and moved his terror network to Sudan (1992-1996)
• Sudanese Government allowed terrorists from around the world to stay and operate
• World wide terrorist networking opportunity
• Bin Ladin officially joined with Zawahiri (Egyptian Islamic Jihad) formally organized Al Qaeda
The 90s and the lead up to 9/11

- He and his terrorist network were furious that American infidels/soldiers were still in Islam’s holy land (Mecca and Medina) and had invaded Somalia
- In their view it was the West against Islam and they declared war against the West and equated America as the leader of the West
- After his 1996 Fatwa, America pressured Sudan to expel bin Ladin
The 90s and the lead up to 9/11

• Egypt and Saudi Arabia refused to arrest him or accept him
• **1996**- Sudan expelled him and bin Ladin moved his terror network to Afghanistan and was given sanctuary by the **Taliban** and **Mullah Omar**
• AQ thrived, built training camps and became a world wide terror network
Chechnya

• **Sunni Muslims**- concurred and converted by Muslims in the 9th century
• Conflict with the Russians began in 1663 with the Russian expansion into the Caucasus region
• **Conflict continues to this day** between the Chechen Muslims and their Tsar/USSR/Russian occupiers
Chechnya

• Chechen Muslims were aided by Al Qaeda and were taught terrorist tactics—many were trained in Afghanistan and Pakistan
• Chechen terrorists launched a long series of terrorist attacks against the Soviet Union and Russia
• Chechens fought against the US in Iraq in Fallujah
• Over 200,000 deaths have been attributed to the conflict
Chechen Terrorist Attacks

- Targets included airliners, hospitals, schools, apartment complexes, government offices etc
- 10/23/2002-Nord-Ost Moscow Theater takeover. 40-50 Chechen and Arab terrorists, over 800 hostages-39 terrorists and 130 hostages killed
Chechen Terrorist Attacks

- Beslan School Massacre
- 9/1/2004 - 49 Chechen and Arab terrorists stormed School Number 1 in Beslan, North Ossetia
  - Over 1,100 hostages taken
  - 3 day siege-school stormed by force
  - 31 terrorists killed (others escaped), 330 hostages killed (172-children)
  - Over 700 wounded
  - Brutal rapes and murders of hostages during the siege
Most Recent Chechen Terrorist Attacks

• 3/29/10- 2 female homicide bombers (black widows) attacked Moscow subway-over 100 killed or wounded

• 3/30/10- 2 male homicide bombers attacked Police Station in Dagestan-over 40 killed or wounded. Dressed in police uniforms-secondary attack on perimeter. (6 foot crater)

• Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) estimate there are 30 black widow bombers trained (9 already carried out missions)
Chechnya

• Current implications
• US initially backed the Chechens because they were against the Soviets/Russians
• Again Cold War policies.....
• Thousands have come into our country legally and illegally
• Passports say Russia (not Chechnya)
9/11/2001

- 19 Islamic terrorists struck our country and forced us to finally confront Radical Islam.
9/11/2001

- Over 3,000 Americans were killed that day
- USA was now officially at war against terrorism
Since 9/11

• **US invasion of Afghanistan** to eliminate Al Qaeda safe haven

• **US invasion of Iraq**—fears of WMD proliferation to terrorists

• Although Al Qaeda was weakened, the US wars in the Middle East have served as major catalysts to Jihadist movements world wide

• Surge in Americanizing Al Qaeda
Ultimate Goals of Sunni Islamic Fundamentalism

- Al-Qaeda/Sunni extremists’ objectives include the end of foreign influence in Muslim countries
- They want the restoration of the Muslim Empire unified under strict Sharia law and ruled by the Caliphate
- World wide Jahiliyyah
- Any Muslim or Muslim country that doesn’t conform to their brand of Islam is a target
Sunni Terrorist Goals

• Hamas and the Palestinian terror groups (Sunni groups) want the destruction of Israel and the return to Palestine
Shi’ite Terrorist Goals

• Shi’ites believe the 12th Imam, the Mahdi will return and will lead them in a violent apocalyptic clash against all non believers.

• Similar concepts in Christianity and Judaism to the second coming of Christ or the Messiah (obviously without the violence).

• Hizballah is more regionalized-supported by Iran and Syria-their goal is the destruction of Israel.
Iran

• What would happen if Iran succeeded in building a nuclear weapon?
• How would the predominately Sunni Muslim world react to an attack on Shi’a Iran? (Saudi’s support for attack)
• How would the extensive Lebanese community with direct ties to Hizballah in America react?
Mecca

- Muhammad was born in Mecca in 570
- The Grand Mosque
Mecca

• It's Islam's most holy city and is the direction in which Muslims face when they pray—the Qibla
• Non Muslims aren't permitted to enter Mecca
• A pilgrimage to Mecca during the week of the Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam
Medina

• Medina is the second holiest site in Islam
• It is where the prophet Muhammad is buried
Medina

- Medina is a city in the Hejaz region of western Saudi Arabia, and serves as the capital of the Al Madinah Province.
Jerusalem

• Jerusalem is the third holiest site in Islam
• The Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque built on top of the Jewish Temple Mount
Jerusalem

- **El-Aqsa** is an Arabic name which means the *Farthest Mosque*
- 10 years after Mohammad received his first revelation, he made a miraculous *night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem* to Heaven on a flying horse called El-Sharif
- While in Jerusalem, the Prophet stopped to pray at the rock (now covered by the golden Dome), and was given the commandment to pray five times a day
Jerusalem

- Muslims throughout the World use Mecca as the direction of prayers (Qibla).
- For 16½ months following the Prophet Mohammad's miraculous journey, Jerusalem was the Qibla.
Questions?